Tenders for the construction of the new out-patients dispensary in Madras General Hospital.

*1211-B *Q.*—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the new building for out-patients dispensary in the Madras General Hospital has been given in a lump sum contract, and if so, to whom;

(*b*) whether a certain date was fixed as the last day for receiving the tenders and whether the time was afterwards extended, and if so, what were the reasons for extension;

(*c*) how many tenders were received on or before the day originally fixed for receiving tenders and how many were received during the extended time;

(*d*) whether the company to whom the contract has been given had given the tender before the date originally fixed or only after that and if in the latter case whether any reason was given by the company for not giving the tender in proper time and whether its tender was accepted;

(*e*) whether the tender was in proper form and satisfied the conditions and details required for lump sum contracts;

(*f*) whether the company to which the contract has been given is a registered company, and if so, what its subscribed and paid-up capital is;

(*g*) if it is not a registered company, who are its partners;

(*h*) whether the company has done any big work before this for the Government;

(*i*) how long the company has been in existence; and

(*j*) whether the Government will be pleased to give a statement showing all the tenderers for this work with the amounts mentioned in their tenders and also whether there were among them persons who have already done big works satisfactorily and whose tenders for this work were for a lower sum than that given in the accepted tender?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The contract was given to the General Construction Company, Limited.

(*b*) *to* (*j*) The particulars have been called for from the Chief Engineer.

Excise

Excise revenue in the Ganjam district.

*1212 *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the revenues of the Ganjam district from Excise for each of the years 1926 and 1927?

A.—Figures are not available for calendar years. The figures for the official years 1926-27 and 1927-28 are as follows:—

	RS.
1926-27	13,82,838
1927-28	14,54,761

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda:—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether there are any special reasons for this increase in the excise revenue?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"I am not able to say."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" May I know whether any propaganda work was carried on by the Government in favour of prohibition ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Hon. Members know as well as I do that propaganda work has not yet been started by the Government."

Grants to local bodies and Temperance Organizations for anti-drink propaganda work.

*1213 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the conditions on which it is proposed to give grants to local bodies and Temperance Organizations for anti-drink propaganda work ;

(b) whether the organizations in receipt of aid will be at perfect liberty to criticise the Excise policy of the Government and work for total prohibition ; and

(c) whether orders will be issued to the officers of the Public Health Department to co-operate with the Temperance Organizations in carrying on the propaganda ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) These questions will be considered when a detailed scheme has been framed for propaganda work.

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister has called for any report from temperance associations or local bodies for carrying on propaganda work ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Number of associations and local bodies have been addressed on the subject."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" May I know when it is likely that a detailed scheme will be framed and published ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It is being done and I hope to have it ready soon."

Mr. A KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government are for total prohibition or for something else ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I believe, Mr. President, that this question has been answered number of times in this Council and, if my hon. Friend wants a detailed reply on the point I will refer to him to the proceedings or I will repeat them again some other day. The whole question has been answered in this Council number of times."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" It is stated in answer to this question that a detailed scheme is going to be framed for carrying on propaganda work. Therefore do the Government want to postpone any kind of propaganda work until those details are worked out ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Because propaganda cannot be started till a detailed scheme has been worked out ? "

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" May I know whether the Government are going to allot any sums for this propaganda work in the next year's budget ? "